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Testimony of
Leodivina A. Salazar, RN
Danbury Nurses' Union, Unit #47 AFT Local 5047
In support of Raised HB5384
An Act Concerning Reports of Nurse Staffing levels
March 5, 2014

I am writing to support H.B. 5384, An Act Concerning Reports of Nurse Staffing Levels. I support mandatory reporting of staffing levels in Connecticut health care facilities. I have been an RN for 38 years and I feel a strong professional and personal fulfillment knowing that I do my job well in giving the best care possible to my patients.

With recent budget cuts, hospitals like Danbury Hospital have laid off employees including several experienced RNs leaving some patient care units chronically short- staffed. I think our patients should know that they have can "travel the safe road to recovery" if there are enough nurses to provide them with quality care that meets their needs.

The hospital management should work collaboratively with the RNs directly involved in patient care in planning and implementing staffing levels that best meet the needs of patients. I agree that the hospitals should submit data every quarter to show their staff to patient ratio.

Sincerely,

Leodivina A. Salazar RN 13 Hidden Brook Drive Brookfield, CT 06804